

PRI

This little impudent hardware-man turns into ridicule the direful apprehensions of the whole kingdom, *priding himself* as the cause of them. *Swift's Miscel.*

PRIE. *n. f.* I suppose an old name of privet.

Lop poplar and fallow, elme, maple and *prie*,
Wel faved from cattel, till summer to lie. *Tusser.*

PRIEF for *prose*. *Spenser.*

PRIER. *n. f.* [from *pry*.] One who enquires too narrowly.

PRIEST. *n. f.* [priest, Sax. *prestra*, Fr.]

1. One who officiates in sacred offices.

I'll to the vicar,
Bring you the maid, you shall not lack a *priest*. *Shaksp.*

The high *priest* shall not uncover his head. *Lev. xxi. 10.*

Our practice of finging differs from the practice of David,
the *priests* and Levites. *Peucham.*

These pray's I thy *priest* before thee bring. *Milton.*

2. One of the second order in the hierarchy, above a deacon,
below a bishop.

No neighbours, but a few poor simple clowns,
Honest and true, with a well-meaning *priest*. *Rowe.*

PRIESTCRAFT. *n. f.* [priest and craft.] Religious frauds;
management of wicked priests to gain power.

Puzzle has half a dozen common-place topics; though
the debate be about Doway, his discourse runs upon bigotry
and *priestcraft*. *Spektator.*

From *priestcraft* happily set free,
Lo! ev'ry finish'd son returns to thee. *Pope.*

PRIESTESS. *n. f.* [from *priest*.] A woman who officiated in
heaven rites.

Then too, our mighty sire, thou stood'st disarm'd,
When thy rap soul the lovely *priestess* charm'd,
That Rome's high founder bore. *Addison.*

These two, being the sons of a lady who was *priestess* to
Juno, drew their mother's chariot to the temple. *Spektator.*

She as *priestess* knows the rites,
Wherein the God of earth delights. *Swift's Miscel.*

Th' inferior *priestess*, at her altar's side,
Trembling, begins the sacred rites of pride. *Pope.*

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priest*.]

1. The office and character of a priest.

Jeroboam is reproved, because he took the *priesthood* from
the tribe of Levi. *Whitgift.*

The *priesthood* hath in all nations, and all religions, been
held highly venerable. *Asterbury's Sermons.*

2. The order of men set apart for holy offices.

Is your *priesthood* grown so peremptory? *Shaksp.*

He pretends, that I have fallen foul on *priesthood*. *Dryden.*

3. The second order of the hierarchy. See **PRIEST.**

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priesthood*.] The appearance or man-
ner of a priest.

PRIESTLY. *adj.* [from *priest*.] Becoming a priest; sacerdotal;
belonging to a priest.

In the Jewish church, none that was blind or lame was
capable of the *priestly* office. *South's Sermons.*

How can incest suit with holiness,
Or *priestly* orders with a princely state? *Dryden.*

PRIESTRIDEN. *adj.* [priest and ridden.] Managed or go-
vern'd by priests.

Such a cant of high-church and persecution, and being
priestridden. *Swift.*

TO PRIEVE for *prove*. *Spenser.*

PRIG. *n. f.* [A cant word derived perhaps from *prick*, as he
pricks up, he is *prig*; or from *pricked*, an epithet of re-
proach bestowed upon the presbyterian teachers.] A pert,
conceited, saucy, pragmatical, little fellow.

The little man concluded, with calling monsieur Mesnager
an insignificant *prig*. *Spektator, N° 482.*

There have I seen some active *prigs*,
To shew his parts, bestride a twig. *Swift's Miscel.*

PRILL. *n. f.* A bird or turbot. *Ainsworth.*

PRIM. *adj.* [by contraction from *primitive*.] Formal; precise;
affectedly nice.

A ball of new dropt horse's dung,
Mingling with apples in the throng,
Said to the pippin, plump and *prim*,
See, brother, how we apples swim. *Swift's Miscel.*

TO PRIM. *v. a.* [from the adjective.] To deck up precisely;
to form to an affected nicety.

PRIMACY. *n. f.* [primatic, primace, Fr. *primatus*, Lat.] The
chief ecclesiastical station.

When he had now the *primacy* in his own hand, he thought
he should be to blame if he did not apply remedies. *Clarend.*

PRIMAGE. *n. f.* The freight of a ship. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMAL. *adj.* [primus, Lat.] First. A word not in use, but
very commodious for poetry.

It hath been taught us from the *primal* state,
That he, which is, was with'd, until he were. *Shaksp.*

Oh! my offence is rank, it smells to heav'n,
It hath the *primal*, eldest curse upon't. *Shaksp.*

PRIMARILY. *adv.* [from *primary*.] Originally; in the first
intention; in the first place.

In fevers, where the heart *primarily* suffereth, we apply
medicines unto the wrists. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

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These considerations so exactly suiting the parable of the
wedding-supper to this spiritual banquet of the gospel, if it
does not *primarily*, and in its first design, intend it; yet cer-
tainly it may, with greater advantage of resemblance, be ap-
plied to it, than to any other duty. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMARINESS. *n. f.* [from *primary*.] The state of being first
in act or intention.

That which is peculiar, must be taken from the *primari-
ness* and secondariness of the perception. *Norris.*

PRIMARY. *adj.* [primarius, Lat.]

1. First in intention.

The figurative notation of this word, and not the *primary*
or literal, belongs to this place. *Hammond.*

2. Original; first.

Before that beginning, there was neither *primary* matter to
be informed, nor form to inform, nor any being but the
eternal. *Raleigh's History of the World.*

When the ruins both *primary* and secondary were settled,
the waters of the abyss began to settle too. *Burnet.*

These I call original or *primary* qualities of body, which
produce simple ideas in us, viz. solidity, extension, figure
and motion. *Locke.*

3. First in dignity; chief; principal.

As the six *primary* planets revolve about him, so the se-
condary ones are moved about them in the same isquilateral
proportion of their periodical motions to their orbs. *Boutly.*

PRIMATE. *n. f.* [primat, Fr. *primas*, Lat.] The chief eccle-
siastick.

When the power of the church was first established, the
archbishops of Canterbury and York had then no prehe-
minence one over the other; the former being *primate* over the
Southern, as the latter was over the Northern parts. *Ayliffe.*

The late and present *primate*, and the lord archbishop of
Dublin hath left memorials of his bounty. *Swift.*

PRIMATESHIP. *n. f.* [from *primate*.] The dignity or office
of a *primate*.

PRIME. *n. f.* [primus, Lat.]

1. The first part of the day; the dawn; the morning.

His larum bell might loud and wide be heard
When cause requir'd, but never out of time,
Early and late it rung at evening and at *prime*. *Spenser.*

Sure pledge of day, that crown'd the smiling moon
With thy bright circle, praise him in thy sphere
While day awakes, that sweet hour of *prime*. *Milton.*

2. The beginning; the early days.

Quickly fundry arts mechanical were found out in the very
prime of the world. *Hooker, b. i. f. 10.*

3. The best part.

Give no more to ev'ry guest,
Than he's able to digest,
Give him always of the *prime*,
And but little at a time. *Swift.*

4. The spring of life; the height of health, strength or beauty.

Make haste, sweet love, whilst it is *prime*,
For none can call again the passed time. *Spenser.*

Will she yet debate her eyes on me,
That crot the golden *prime* of this sweet prince,
And made her widow to a woful bed? *Shaksp. Rich. III.*

Youth, beauty, wisdom, courage, virtue, all
That happiness and *prime* can happy call. *Shaksp.*

Likeliest the seem'd to Ceres in her *prime*. *Milton.*

No poet ever sweetly sung,
Unless he were, like Phœbus, young;
Nor ever nymph inspir'd to rhyme,
Unless, like Venus, in her *prime*. *Swift.*

Short were her marriage joys; for in the *prime*
Of youth, her lord expir'd before his time. *Dryden.*

5. Spring.

Hope waits upon the flow'ry *prime*,
And summer, though it be less gay,
Yet is not look'd on as a time
Of declination or decay. *Waller.*

The poet and his theme in spite of time,
For ever young enjoys an endless *prime*. *Granville.*

6. The height of perfection.

The plants which now appear in the most different seasons,
would have been all in *prime*, and flourishing together at the
same time. *Ainsworth.*

7. The first canonical hour.

8. The first part; the beginning: as, the *prime* of the moon.

PRIME. *adj.* [primus, Lat.]

1. Early; blooming.

His itary helm unbuckl'd, shew'd him *prime*
In manhood, where youth ended. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

2. Principal; first rate.

Divers of *prime* quality, in several counties, were, for re-
fusing to pay the same, committed to prison. *Clarendon.*

Nor can I think, that God will so destroy
We his *prime* creatures dignify'd so high. *Milton.*

Humility and resignation are our *prime* virtues. *Dryden.*

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3. First; original.

We smother'd
The most replenish'd sweet work of nature,
That from the *prime* creation e'er she fram'd. *Shaksp.*

Moses being chosen by God to be the ruler of his people,
will not prove that priesthood belonged to Adam's heir, or the
prime fathers. *Locke.*

4. Excellent. It may, in this loose sense, perhaps admit,
though scarcely with propriety, a superlative.

We are contented with
Catharine our queen, before the *primest* creature
That's paragon'd i' th' world. *Shaksp. Henry VIII.*

TO PRIME. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To put in the first powder; to put powder in the pan of a
gun.

A pistol of about a foot in length, we *primed* with well-
dried gunpowder. *Boyle.*

Prime all your firelocks, fasten well the stake. *Gay.*

His friendship was exactly tim'd,
He shot before your foes were *prim'd*. *Swift's Miscel.*

2. [Primer, Fr. to begin.] To lay the first colours on in paint-
ing. A Gallicism.

PRIMELY. *adv.* [from *prime*.]

1. Originally; primarily; in the first place; in the first inten-
tion.

Words signify not immediately and *primely* things them-
selves, but the conceptions of the mind about them. *South.*

2. Excellently; supremely well. A low sense.

PRIMENESS. *n. f.* [from *prime*.]

1. The state of being first.

2. Excellence.

PRIMER. *n. f.*

1. An office of the blessed Virgin.

Another prayer to her is not only in the manual, but in
the *primer* or office of the blessed Virgin. *Stillingfleet.*

2. [Primarius, Lat.] A small prayer book in which children
are taught to read, so named from the Romish book of devo-
tions; an elementary book.

The Lord's prayer, the creed and ten commandments
he should learn by heart; but by reading them himself in his
primer, but by somebody's repeating them before he can
read. *Locke on Education.*

PRIMERO. *n. f.* [Spanish.] A game at cards.

I left him at *primero*

With the duke of Suffolk. *Shaksp. Henry VIII.*

PRIMEVAL. *adj.* [primævus, Lat.] Original; such as was

PRIMEVOUS. *adj.* [from *prime*.]

1. Immortal dove,

Thou with almighty energy did'st move
On the wild waves, incumbent did'st display
Thy genial wings, and hatch *primeval* day. *Blackmore.*

All the parts of this great labrick change;
Quit their old stations and *primeval* frame,
And lose their shape, their essence, and their name. *Prior.*

PRIMITIAL. *adj.* [primitivus, Lat.] Being of the first
production. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMITIVE. *adj.* [primitivus, Fr. *primitivus*, Lat.]

1. Ancient; original; established from the beginning.

Their superstition pretends, they cannot do God greater
service, than utterly to destroy the *primitive* apostolical go-
vernment of the church by bishops. *King Charles.*

David reflects sometimes upon the present form of the
world, and sometimes upon the *primitive* form of it. *Burnet.*

The doctrine of purgatory, by which they mean an estate
of temporary punishments after this life, was not known in
the *primitive* church, nor can be proved from scripture. *Tillot.*

2. Formal; affectedly solemn; imitating the supposed gravity
of old times.

3. Original; primary; not derivative: as, in grammar, a *primi-
tive* verb.

Our *primitive* great fire, to meet
His godlike guest, walks forth. *Milton.*

PRIMITIVELY. *adv.* [from *primitive*.]

1. Originally; at first.

Solemnities and ceremonies, *primitively* enjoined, were af-
terward omitted, the occasion ceasing. *Brewer.*

2. Primarily; not derivatively.

According to the original rule; according to ancient practice.

The purest and most *primitively* reformed church in the
world was laid in the dust. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMITIVENESS. *n. f.* [from *primitive*.] State of being origi-
nal; antiquity; conformity to antiquity.

PRIMNESS. *n. f.* [from *prim*.] Affect'd niceness or formality.

PRIMOGENIAL. *adj.* [primogenitus, Lat.] It should therefore have
been written *primigenial*. Firstborn; original; primary;
constituent; elemental.

The *primogenial* light at first was diffused over the face of
the unfashion'd chaos. *Clarendon's Scyll.*

It is not easy to discern, among many differing substances
obtained from the same matter, what *primogenial* and simple
bodies conjoined together compose it. *Boyle.*

The first or *primogenial* earth, which rose out of the chaos,
was not like the present earth. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

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PRIMOGENITURE. *n. f.* [primogeniture, Fr. from *prim* genitus,
Lat.] Seniority; eldership; state of being firstborn.

Because the scripture affordeth the priority of order un-
der Sem, we cannot from hence infer his *primogeniture*. *Brown.*

The first provoker has, by his seniority and *primogeniture*,
a double portion of the guilt. *Government of the Tongue.*

PRIMO'DIAL. *adj.* [primordial, Fr. *primordium*, Lat.] Ori-
ginal; existing from the beginning.

Salts may be either transmutated or otherwise produced, and
so may not be *primordial* and immutable beings. *Boyle.*

PRIMO'DIAL. *n. f.* [from the adj.] Origin; first principle.

The *primordials* of the world are not mechanical, but sper-
matical and vital. *More's Divine Dialogues.*

PRIMO'DIAN. *n. f.* See **PLUM**, of which it is a species.

PRIMO'DIATE. *adj.* [from *primordium*, Lat.] Original; ex-
isting from the first.

Not every thing chymists will call salt, sulphur or spirit, that
needs always be a *primordiate* and ingenerable body. *Boyle.*

PRIMO'ROSE. *n. f.* [primula veris, Lat.] A plant.

The flower of the *primrose* consists of one leaf, the lower
part of which is tubulose, but the upper part expands itself
flat in form of a falver, and is cut into several segments;
from the flower-cup, which is fistulous, arises the pointal,
which, when the flower is decayed, becomes an oblong fruit
or hulk, lying almost concealed in the flower-cup, and opens
at the top, in which are contained many roundish seeds
fastened to the placenta. *Miller.*

Pale *primroses*,
That die unmarried, ere they can behold
Bright Phœbus in his strength. *Shaksp. Winter's Tale.*

I would look pale as *primrose*. *Shaksp. Henry VI.*

There followeth, for the latter part of January, *primroses*,
anemones, the early tulip. *Bacon's Essays.*

2. *Primrose* is used by *Shakespeare* for gay or flowery.

I had thought to have let in some of all professions, that go
the *primrose* way to the everlasting bonfire. *Shaksp.*

PRINCE. *n. f.* [prince, Fr. *princeps*, Lat.]

1. A sovereign; a chief ruler.

Celestial! whether among the thrones, or nam'd
Of them the highest; for such of shape may seem
Prince above princes. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. xi.*

Forces come to be used by good princes, only upon necessity
of providing for their defence. *Temple.*

Esaú founded a distinct people and government, and was
himself a distinct *prince* over them. *Locke.*

The succession of crowns, in several countries, places it
on different heads, and he comes, by succession, to be a *prince*
in one place, who would be a subject in another. *Locke.*

Had we no histories of the Roman emperors, but on their
money, we should take them for most virtuous princes. *Addison.*

Our tottering state still distracted stands,
While that *prince* threatens, and while this commands. *Pope.*

2. A sovereign of rank next to kings.

3. Ruler of whatever sex.